

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 September 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder is very warm, kind and caring towards children. She gives children her undivided attention when they play and learn. This helps children to feel settled, safe and secure in her care. Children show affection for the childminder. They very much enjoy their time in this setting. The childminder teaches children about their emotions and how to share and take turns. She gives them skills to solve problems themselves. For example, when children want to play with the same toy, the childminder encourages them to think of a solution together. The childminder reads children stories about different emotions to help them to understand how they are feeling. This helps all children to behave well.

The childminder plans a curriculum around children's interests and what they need to learn next. She plans a very enabling and well-resourced environment to support her curriculum. The childminder makes sure that children can freely access resources. This helps children to independently extend their play and follow their interests. The childminder has clear routines throughout the day to help children to know what to expect. For instance, children take part in regular song and story times with props. This helps to engage children and develop their language and early literacy skills.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder places a focus in her curriculum on children learning outdoors. For example, she encourages children to paint on large rolls of paper on the garden path with the wheels of different vehicles. Children experiment with mixing colours and explore the marks different-sized wheels make. They work together, developing their creativity and imagination.
- Children benefit from a wealth of experiences to explore features of their local environment, such as the beach and countryside. The childminder takes children to museums and stately homes to learn about life in the past. Children explore different festivals, such as Lunar New Year, during a trip into the city to visit Chinatown. The childminder uses these visits to help children to learn about the world around them.
- The childminder has clear next steps for children's learning. For instance, she weaves mathematics into children's play and activities. The childminder encourages children to count the pet guinea pigs, talk about different sizes in sand play and recognise colours when painting. This helps children to make good progress as they play.
- The childminder places a focus on children learning about the importance of following healthy lifestyles. She offers children nutritious and well-balanced meals and snacks. Children enjoy planting and harvesting fruit and vegetables on the allotment. They develop an understanding of where food comes from.

- Children have an abundance of opportunities to develop their physical skills. They build their stamina, strength and coordination during outings. For example, children visit the park, soft-play centres and weekly yoga sessions. They build with large planks and reels in the garden. Children show pride and balance as they carefully walk along the 'see-saw' they make.
- Children are motivated and engaged by all the activities the childminder plans for them. For example, they experiment with melting ice in a large tray outdoors. Children carefully squeeze pipettes and pour water to work out how to melt the ice. They are willing to have a go, show ideas and try hard.
- The childminder develops children's language skills very well. She thinks carefully about the new vocabulary she teaches them, such as 'melting' and 'freezing' when they explore ice. The childminder encourages children to engage in constant conversations and recall their previous learning. Children confidently articulate their thoughts and ideas well.
- The childminder shares lots of information with parents and carers around their children's learning. She provides parents with regular photos and progress reports and shares children's next steps in learning. This helps parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- Overall, the childminder develops children's independence skills well, such as dressing themselves, washing their hands and using the toilet. However, the childminder does not consistently develop some aspects of children's self-care skills. For example, during mealtimes, some older children still sit in highchairs. This does not equip children with some of the skills they will need when they move on to nursery or school.
- The childminder has attended all statutory training. This ensures that she meets all the requirements of her registration and keeps children safe. However, the childminder has not precisely focused professional development on enhancing her skills and knowledge of teaching the curriculum further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- support children to extend their self-care skills further in preparation for their next stage in learning
- focus professional development opportunities more precisely on enhancing the quality of education further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2748876
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	10405876
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023 and lives in Whitley Bay. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 5. She provides government funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises. She discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable and how she implements the curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during the inspection, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children.
- The childminder evaluated children's learning with the inspector.
- Parents shared their written comments with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation that the childminder shared.
- The childminder and the inspector had leadership and management discussions throughout the inspection.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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